making/amending laws to provide for intellectual property protection in areas such as patents, copy rights, industrial designs, layout design of integrated circuits, trade marks, sui generis plant variety protection and protection of trade secrets.

(b) All necessary steps have been/are being taken by the Government to meet these obligation within the stipulated time period.

Modifications in Patents (Amendment) Bill

*12. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Law Commission has suggested extensive modifications to the Patents (Amendment) Bill, 1998 which was passed by the Rajya Sabha but lapsed due to the dissolution of the 12th Lok Sabha, since replaced by an Ordinance, for incorporation in the new legislation on the subject;

(b) if so, the details of the modifications suggested and whether Government would include these modifications while passing the amending Bill in Parliament; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (c) The Patents (Amendment) ordinance, 1999 issued on 8 January, 1999 has since been replaced by the Patents (Amendment) Act, 1999 after its passage by Lok Sabha and assent by the President on 26 March, 1999. The suggestions of the Law Commission, as relevant to the legislation, were considered.

Provision of Funds for Development of towns under Bhopal Division

†*13. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of towns of Bhopal Division of Madhya Pradesh to which funds have been provided by the Central Government under the various schemes of urban development and year-wise funds provided to each town during the last five years; and

(b) the names of towns of Bhopal Division for which proposals for

† Original notice of the Questions was received in Hindi.